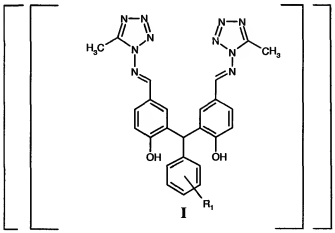
Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound having the formula:



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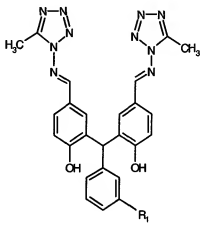

Ia

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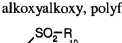
wherein:

R_1 represents a radical selected from the group consisting of

, $-NR_5R_6$, $-SO_2NR_7R_8$, hydroxyalkyl, hydroxyalkoxy, polyhydroxyalkyl,

alkoxyalkoxy, polyfluoroalkyl, dialkylaminoalkyl, R_9, -OR_9,



, and HET; n being an integer from 1 to 4;

R_2 and R_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of straight or branched chain alkyl and hydrogen;

R_4 is a radical selected from the group consisting of a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl radical, an unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclic radical, and $-NR_{12}R_{13}$;

R_5 and R_7 are independently selected from the group consisting of alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, polyhydroxyalkyl, aralkyl, R_9, $-(C=O)R_{14}$ and $-(C=O)R_9$;

R_6, R_8, R_{12}, and R_{13} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxyalkyl, polyfluoroalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, polyhydroxyalkyl, aralkyl, R_9, $-(C=O)R_{15}$ and $-(C=O)R_9$;

or R_5 and R_6 taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic radical, said heterocyclic radical optionally containing one to two additional heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur;

or R_7 and R_8 taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic radical, said heterocyclic radical optionally containing one to two additional heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur;

said phenyl and heterocyclic radical substituents being at least one selected from the group consisting of alkyl, amino, hydroxy, carbonyl, monoalkylamino, dialkylamino, halogen, and alkoxy;

R_9 is a radical of the formula $-W-O(C=O)-CH_3$, W being a straight- or branched-chain alkylene group of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

R_{10} and R_{11} are radicals independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, halo, haloalkyl, and polyfluoroalkyl;

HET represents an unsubstituted or substituted five to seven membered heterocyclic ring containing one to four heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur, ~~whereby the point of attachment to the heterocyclic ring is not at a nitrogen atom,~~ said heterocyclic ring substituents being one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of alkyl, amino, hydroxy, carbonyl, oxo, monoalkylamino, and dialkylamino;

R_{14} is a hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl or cycloalkyl group;

R_{15} is an alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl or cycloalkyl group, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts of said compound.

2.-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) A compound according to claim 1, selected from the group consisting of:

2,2'-[[3-(2,2,2-Trifluoroethyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]benzeneethanol, acetate ester;

3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]benzeneethanol;

2,2'-[[3-(4-Morpholinyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-(1-Piperidinyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]-N,N-bis(methoxyethyl)benzenesulfonamide;

3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]-N-(hydroxyethyl)-N-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]benzenepropanol;

2,2'-[[3-(4-Morpholinylsulfonyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-(Methoxyethoxy)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[[3-Bis(phenylmethyl)amino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]phenoxyethanol, acetate ester;

3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]-N-(acetoxyethyl)-N-methylbenzenesulfonamide;

3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]phenoxyethanol;

2-Hydroxy-N-[[3-[bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxylphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-N-(methylethyl)acetamide;

2-(Acetyloxy)-N-[3-[[bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-N-propylacetamide;

2,2'-[[3-[1-(4-Methylpiperazinyl)methyl]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-(Diethylaminomethyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-(Dimethylaminomethyl)phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-[4-(Morpholinyl)methyl]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-[N-(4-Hydroxybutyl)-N-ethylamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2-(Acetyloxy)-N-[3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-2-methylpropanamide;

N-[3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxylphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-2-methoxyacetamide;

N-[3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxylphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-cyclopropanecarboxamide;

N-[3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxylphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-N-(butylsulfonyl)butane sulfonamide;

N-[3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxylphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-N-(2,2,2-trifluoroethylsulfonyl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethane sulfonamide;

N-[3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxylphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-2-hydroxy-2-methyl-propanamide;

N-[3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxylphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-N-(propylsulfonyl)propane sulfonamide;

N-[3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxylphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-N-(3-chloropropylsulfonyl)-3-chloropropane sulfonamide;

2-(Acetyloxy)-N-[3-[[bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxyphenyl]methylene]phenyl]acetamide;

N-[3-[[Bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxylphenyl]methylene]phenyl]-N-(methylsulfonyl)methane sulfonamide;

2,2'-[[3-[2-(1,1-Dioxide-2,3,4,5-tetrahydro)isothiazolyl]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2-Hydroxy-N-[3-[[bis[[5-(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]-2-hydroxylphenyl]methylene]phenyl]acetamide;

2,2'-[[3-[N-(3-Hydroxypropyl)-N-ethylamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-[N-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-N-ethylamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-[1-(4-Hydroxypiperidinyl)]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-[N-(3-Hydroxypropyl)-N-methylamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-[N-(4-Acetoxybutyl)-N-ethylamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-[N-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-N-methylamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-[N-(4-Hydroxybutyl)-N-methylamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-[N-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-N-propyllamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

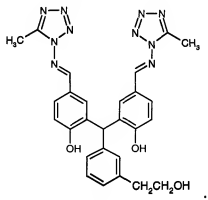
2,2'-[[3-[N-(4-Hydroxybutyl)-N-propylamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol;

2,2'-[[3-[N-(6-Hydroxyhexyl)-N-ethylamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol; and

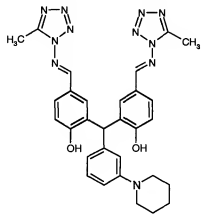
2,2'-[[3-[N-(5-Hydroxypentyl)-N-ethylamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) The compound according to claim1 having the formula:



7. (Original) The compound according to claim1 having the formula:



8. (Original) The compound according to claim 1 having the name 2,2'-[[3-[N-(4-Hydroxybutyl)-N-ethylamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol.

9. (Original) The compound according to claim 1 having the name 2,2'-[[3-[N-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-N-methylamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)imino]methyl]]phenol.

10. (Original) The compound according to claim 1 having the name 2,2'-[[3-[N-(2-Hydroxyethyl)-N-ethylamino]phenyl]methylene]bis[4-[[(5-methyl-1H-tetrazol-1-

yl)imino]methyl]]phenol.

11. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition for treating or preventing pneumovirus infection, said composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 in an amount effective to attenuate infectivity of said virus, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier medium.

12. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, further comprising at least one supplemental active agent selected from the group consisting of interferons, ribavirin and immunomodulators, immunoglobulins, anti-flammatory agents, antibiotics, anti-virals and anti-infectives.

13. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable carrier medium comprises ethanol.

14. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable carrier medium comprises propylene glycol.

15. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable carrier medium comprises water.

16. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein said pharmaceutically composition comprises at least 50% ethanol.

17. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein said pharmaceutically composition comprises at least 60% ethanol.

18. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein said pharmaceutically composition comprises at least 7% ethanol.

19. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein said pharmaceutically composition comprises at least 80% ethanol.

20. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein said pharmaceutically composition comprises at least 90% ethanol.

21. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 20, wherein said pharmaceutically composition comprises less than 5% water.

22. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable carrier medium comprises ethanol, water, and propylene glycol.

23. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 22, wherein said pharmaceutically composition comprises about 85% ethanol, about 10% propylene glycol, and about 5% water.

24. (Original) A method of treatment of pneumovirus infection in a patient in need of said treatment, said method comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

25. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 24, wherein said compound is administered through inhalation.

26. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 24, wherein said compound is administered by an electrostatic delivery device.

27. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein said electrostatic delivery device is hand-held.

28. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein said electrostatic delivery device is disposable.

29. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein said electrostatic delivery device is for a single user.

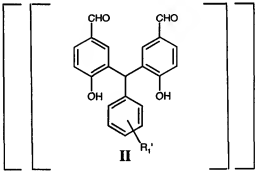
30. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein said electrostatic delivery device comprises a removable mouthpiece.

31. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein said electrostatic delivery device comprises a mask.

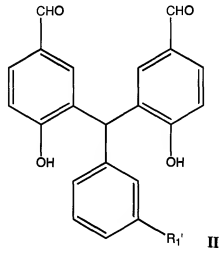
32. (Original) A method of treating cells in culture that are susceptible to infection by, or infected or contaminated with a pneumovirus, said method comprising administering to said cultures an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

33. (Original) A method of treating biological materials that are susceptible to infection by, or infected or contaminated with a pneumovirus, said method comprising administering to said materials an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

34. (Currently Amended) A compound having the formula:



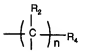
II



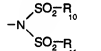
II

wherein:

R_1' represents a radical selected from the group consisting of



, $-NR_5R_6$, $-SO_2NR_7R_8$, hydroxyalkyl, hydroxyalkoxy, polyhydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy, polyfluoroalkyl, dialkylaminoalkyl, R_9, $-OR_9$,



, and HET; n being an integer from 1 to 4;

R_2 and R_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of straight or branched chain alkyl and hydrogen;

R_4 is a radical selected from the group consisting of a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl radical, an unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclic radical, and $-NR_{12}R_{13}$;

R_5 and R_7 are independently selected from the group consisting of alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, polyhydroxyalkyl, aralkyl, R_9, $-(C=O)R_{14}$ and $-(C=O)R_9$;

R_6, R_8, R_{12}, and R_{13} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxyalkyl, polyfluoroalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, polyhydroxyalkyl, aralkyl, R_9, $-(C=O)R_{15}$ and $-(C=O)R_9$;

or R_5 and R_6 taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic radical, said heterocyclic radical optionally containing one to two additional heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur;

or R_7 and R_8 taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic radical, said heterocyclic radical optionally containing one to two additional heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur;

said phenyl and heterocyclic radical substituents being at least one selected from the group consisting of alkyl, amino, hydroxy, carbonyl, monoalkylamino, dialkylamino, halogen, and alkoxy;

R_9 is a radical of the formula –W-O(C=O)-CH_3, W being a straight- or branched-chain alkylene group of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

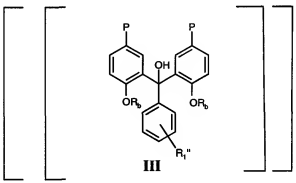
R_{10} and R_{11} are radicals independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, halo, haloalkyl, and polyfluoroalkyl;

HET represents an unsubstituted or substituted five to seven membered heterocyclic ring containing one to four heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur, ~~whereby the point of attachment to the heterocyclic ring is not at a nitrogen atom,~~ said heterocyclic ring substituents being one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of alkyl, amino, hydroxy, carbonyl, oxo, monoalkylamino, and dialkylamino;

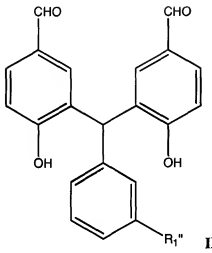
R_{14} is a hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl or cycloalkyl group;

R_{15} is an alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl or cycloalkyl group, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts of said compound.

35. (Currently Amended) A compound having the formula:



III



III

wherein R_b is selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2OCH_3$, $-CH_2OCH_2CH_3$, -CH(CH_3) OCH_2CH_3, $-CH_2-OCH_2CH_2-OCH_3$,  , $-CH_2-OCH_2CH_2-Si(CH_3)_3$, $-CH_3$, $-CH_2C_6H_5$, $-(CH_2)_2Si(CH_3)_5$, $-CON(R_cR_d)_2$, $-CSN(R_cR_d)_2$, and $-PO(NR_cR_d)_2$;

R_c and R_d are independently selected from an alkyl group;

R_1'' represents a radical selected from the group consisting of

 , $-NR_5R_6$, $-SO_2NR_7R_8$, hydroxyalkyl, hydroxyalkoxy, polyhydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy, polyfluoroalkyl, dialkylaminoalkyl, R_9, $-OR_9$,

 , and HET; n being an integer from 1 to 4;

R_2 and R_3 are each independently selected from the group consisting of straight or branched chain alkyl and hydrogen;

R_4 is a radical selected from the group consisting of a substituted or unsubstituted

phenyl radical, an unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclic radical, and $-NR_{12}R_{13}$;

R_5 and R_7 are independently selected from the group consisting of alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, polyhydroxyalkyl, aralkyl, R_9, $-(C=O)R_{14}$ and $-(C=O)R_9$;

R_6, R_8, R_{12}, and R_{13} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxyalkyl, polyfluoroalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, polyhydroxyalkyl, aralkyl, R_9, $-(C=O)R_{15}$ and $-(C=O)R_9$;

or R_5 and R_6 taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic radical, said heterocyclic radical optionally containing one to two additional heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur;

or R_7 and R_8 taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic radical, said heterocyclic radical optionally containing one to two additional heteroatoms independently selected from the group consisting nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur;

said phenyl and heterocyclic radical substituents being at least one selected from the group consisting of alkyl, amino, hydroxy, carbonyl, monoalkylamino, dialkylamino, halogen, and alkoxy;

R_9 is a radical of the formula $-W-O(C=O)-CH_3$, W being a straight- or branched-chain alkylene group of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

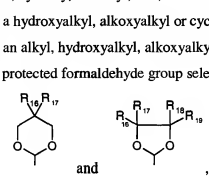
R_{10} and R_{11} are radicals independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, halo, haloalkyl, and polyfluoroalkyl;

HET represents an unsubstituted or substituted five to seven membered heterocyclic ring containing one to four heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur, ~~whereby the point of attachment to the heterocyclic ring is not at a nitrogen atom,~~ said heterocyclic ring substituents being one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of alkyl, amino, hydroxy, carbonyl, oxo, monoalkylamino, and dialkylamino;

R_{14} is a hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl or cycloalkyl group;

R_{15} is an alkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxyalkyl or cycloalkyl group;

P is a protected formaldehyde group selected from the group consisting of



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wherein R_{16}, R_{17}, R_{18} and R_{19} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts of said compound.